

1 Ono River ferryboat and fish migration route sites

From the end of the Edo period until the beginning of the Meiji era, ferryboats traveled along the Ono River. However, since the boats could not go past the waterfalls, people and cargo had to be unloaded here. This was also true for the migratory fishes like ayu, which couldn't climb upstream past the waterfalls. But in 1913, a fish migration route was made by digging a tunnel that connects the top and bottom of the waterfalls so that the fish could swim upstream.

The yellow lines are thought to have been fish ladders.



2 Ruins of the Chinda Hydroelectric Power Generation Plant

At Chinda Falls, electricity is generated using the gravitational force created by the falling water. In 1909, a dam was constructed upstream from the waterfalls and a power generating facility that was built downstream began supplying electricity. Back then, the generated electricity was used to operate streetcars between Oita and Beppu, which contributed to Japan's modernization. Eventually, the dam was moved further upstream to provide a stable supply of electricity, while



When former power plant was in operation

the flow of the water was stopped to prevent the cliff of the waterfall from falling apart due to water pressure. As a result the scenic beauty of the waterfalls was ruined.

*The current power plant is relocated 2 kilometers downstream.

Landscaping works

Local residents were waiting anxiously to see the waterfall recover its beautiful appearance, and finally in 1996, the original scenic beauty was restored. A great amount of work was done to make sure the cliff would remain stable, and by making reference to Sesshu's Chinda Falls, an ink wash painting that shows the 13 vertical sections of the Chinda Falls, the landscape work was completed.



Chinda Falls without water

Created by a large eruption of Mt. Aso, it promoted modernization

The rocks that form the shape of the waterfalls are from the pyroclastic flow, which occurred during the great eruption of Mt. Aso some 90,000 years ago. These rocks, called Aso ignimbrite, resulted from the cooling and hardening of pyroclastic flow, and the countless number of cracks in the rocks is the reason for the formation of this beautiful landscape. Because the rocks fell apart in vertical strips, the rocks formed the vertical sections. This is one of the distinctive landscapes of Bungo-Ono Geopark.

This waterfall was created with natural rocks. I've heard it once dried up.

Later it was restored through the efforts of concerned people.



Geoguide

Dam

Odaki (Male Falls)

1



Photo spot

The picture on the cover was taken at this spot.

Ono River



Water outlet of the electric power plant

2

Photo spot

You can view the former Chinda Power Plant site and Odaki (Male Falls).



Parking

Restroom

Parking for large buses

Hirai River

Medaki (Femal Falls)

A great artist's rendition

What is different from the ink painting done 600 years ago?



Chinda Falls by Sesshu (Replica) Owned by Bungo-Ono City's Ono Branch Office



Pocket Park